

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph title on page 1, line 13 of the specification with the following amended title:

BACKGROUND BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, starting with line 26 and ending with line 31 with the following amended paragraph.

U.S. patent 4,969,943 4,696,943 discloses the levorotatory isomer of α -ethyl-2-oxo-1-pyrrolidineacetamide, which has the absolute S configuration, a method for making the isomer and pharmaceutical compositions containing the same. U.S. patent 4,696,943 discloses that the levorotatory isomer has a 10 times higher protective activity against hypoxia and a 4 times higher protective activity against ischemia compared to the known racemic form.